

REMARKS

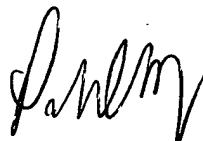
Claims 1 to 7, 9 to 12, and 14 are pending in the application. Claim 13 has been canceled by this Amendment. Claims 1 to 6, 11 and 12 are withdrawn from consideration in response to a previous restriction requirement.

Claim 13 is noted to be allowable in the Office Action if re-written in independent form. The limitations of claim 13 are added to independent claim 7 by this Amendment, and claim 13 is canceled, thereby overcoming the §102(b) rejections to claims 7, 9, 10 and 14 over WO 00/40620 by Skar, et al.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the pending rejections, and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for claims 7, 9, 10, and 14.

Respectfully submitted,

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